(b) the purpose for which that money is being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The universal Service Support Policy has taken with effect from 01.04.2002 and therefore the receipts have been classified towards Universal Service Fund only with effect from 01.04.2002.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Money Order Commission on Disbursal of old age pension

920. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the State Governments have to bear the burden of Money Order Commission amounting to crores of rupees on disbursal of National Old Age Pension under the Rural Development Ministry's National Social Assistance Programme;

(b) if so, whether the Kerala Government has requested the Postal Services Board to exempt the National Old Age Pension from payment of Money Order Commission as has been done in case of the defence service personnel who are exempted from paying Money Order Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. State Governments are paying required Money Order Commission due and admissible.

(b) and (c) The request of the Kerala Government for exemption from money order commission could not be accepted. Money order commission in respect of money orders sent by the defence personnel is reimbursed by the Ministry of Defence to Department of Posts.